I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via flicsimile to the U.S.

Patent Office at 703-873-0306, on the date statum below.

Dotod: January 19, 2005

Signature: Contact Wendy Salabay

Docket No.: 65229-0010/GP-301542 (PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:

Michael Douglas et al.

JAN 1 9 2005

Application No.: 09/656,677

Art Unit: 2125

Filed: September 7, 2000

Examiner: GANDHI, Jayprakash N..

For: METHOD FOR EARLY OPTIMIZATION OF A MANUFACTURING SYSTEM DESIGN

## RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION.

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants hereby respond to the Final Office Action mailed November 23, 2004 ("Final Office Action") as follows:

A Current Listing of Claims is reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

Jahran Jas